

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 EURE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EA-06 FRB-03 INR-07

IO-10 NEA-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AEC-05 DODE-00 FEAE-00

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INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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USMISSION OECD PASS USDEL IEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IT, OECD

SUBJECT: EARLY REPORTS ON THE IEA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

1. EARLY PRESS REPORTS ON PROGRESS IEA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING IN
PARIS HAVE BEEN BALANCED AND FACTUAL, WITH LITTLE COMMENT.

LIKewise MOST OF REACTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FEBRUARY 3

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NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS.

2. ONE OF FEW EXCEPTIONS IS ARTICLE BY IVAN ARNALDI, CORRESPONDENT FOR MILAN BUSINESS DAILY 24 ORE/IL SOLE. BECAUSE ARNALDI MANAGES TO COMBINE MOST OF CURRENT UNFAVORABLE QUOTE INTERPRETATIONS UNQUOTE SUPPOSEDLY BEHIND US ENERGY POLICY INITIATIVES, AND BECAUSE 24 ORE IS INFLUENTIAL, CONSERVATIVE AND WIDELY-READ IN ITALIAN BUSINESS CIRCLES, ARNALDI'S REMARKS MAY BE OF SOME INTEREST:

(A) US DOES NOT WANT A CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE: ARNALDI INTERPRETS ASST. SEC. ENDERS' COMMENTS THAT KISSINGER PROPOSALS INTENDING TO PROVIDE A COMMON POSITION AMONG THE CONSUMING COUNTRIES REALLY MEAN THAT THE US CONTINUES TO BE AGAINST THE FRENCH-PROPOSED CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE.

(B) THE US IS REALLY AFTER UNDISPUTED LEADERSHIP OF THE WEST: BEGINNING WITH THE QUOTE BRUTAL UNQUOTE RESPONSE OF THE US TO THE RESULTS OF THE GISCARD/SCHMIDT TALKS, ARNALDI STATES THAT QUOTE IN FACT, THE ESSENCE OF THE IEA MEETINGS IS TO FIND OUT IF THE MEMBERS OF THE IEA WILL ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH THE KISSINGER THESIS; THOSE WHICH WOULD SIGNIFY RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN LEADERSHIP OF THE WESTERN WORLD, WHICH WASHINGTON HAS SOUGHT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE ENERGY CRISIS, WITHOUT HAVING YET EARLY OBTAINED IT UNQUOTE.

(C) US NON-CONSULTATION WITH EUROPE: ARNALDI POINTS OUT THAT EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS KNOW NOT WHERE TO TURN, HAVING QUOTE LEARNED, LIKE ALL THE REST, OF THE KISSINGER PROPOSALS FROM THE PRESS UNQUOTE.

4. FROM THIS BACKGROUND, ARNALDI GOES ON TO POINT OUT THAT ONLY THE US WILL BENEFIT FROM THE FIXING OF A MINIMUM PRICE FOR PETROLEUM BECAUSE OF ITS DOMESTIC RESOURCES; THAT THE COUNTRIES IMPORTING MOST OF THEIR ENERGY REQUIREMENTS WILL BE OBLIGATED TO PAY A HIGH PRICE FOR PETROLEUM WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER ENERGY SOURCES; AND THAT UNNAMED QUOTE COMMUNITY UNQUOTE SOURCES DON'T HIDE THEIR OPINIONS THAT THE US PROPOSALS ARE DESIGNED TO CORDON OFF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE US TO QUOTE INTRODUCE TOTAL POLITICAL CONTROL OVER THE ECONOMY OF THE WESTERN WORLD UNQUOTE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5. COMMENT: THE ONLY CANARD CURRENTLY IN CIRCULATION IGNORED BY ARNALDI IS THAT THE US PRE-ARRANGED THE ENERGY CRISIS WITH THE USSR...OR ALTERNATIVELY, WITH THE ARABS. VOLPE

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